

## **Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2**

### **RESOLUTION CHAPTER 110**

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2—Relative to Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 12, 2005.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

ACR 2, Cohn. Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of October 2005 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, Home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, and security; however, for many Americans, home is tainted with violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence is much more than the occasional family dispute; and

WHEREAS, According to the Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service, domestic violence is a societal problem of epidemic proportions; and

WHEREAS, According to experts, between 2 and 4 million American women are battered every year, and between 3.3 and 10 million children witness violence in their homes; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Labor, 1,000,000 people are assaulted and injured every year as a result of workplace violence, 1,000 people are killed every year due to workplace violence, and 30 percent of battered women lose their jobs due to harassment at work by abusive husbands and boyfriends; and

WHEREAS, Battering affects families across America in all socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, More than one-half of the number of women in need of shelter from an abusive environment may be turned away from a shelter due to a lack of space; and

WHEREAS, Women are not the only targets of domestic violence: young children, elderly persons, and men are also victims in their own homes; and

WHEREAS, Emotional, physical, and psychological scars are often permanent; and

WHEREAS, A coalition of organizations has emerged to confront this crisis directly. Law enforcement agencies, domestic violence hotlines, battered women and childrens' shelters, health care providers, faith-based organizations, the courts, and the volunteers that serve those entities are helping in the effort to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals involved in that effort, applaud their commitment, and increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

WHEREAS, The first Day of Unity was celebrated in October 1981 and was sponsored by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence for the purpose of uniting battered womens' advocates across the nation in an effort to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, That one day has grown into a month of activities at all levels of government, aimed at creating awareness about the problem and presenting solutions; and

WHEREAS, The first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was proclaimed in October 1987; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby proclaims the month of October 2005 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of California, the Director of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.